



March 4, 2004 Vol. 9

## NATIONWIDE BROWN v BOARD OF EDUCATION EVENTS GROWING

On March 11, 2004, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Parkland College welcomes the Brown Sisters. This is a special opportunity to learn firsthand about the personal impact of *Brown v Board* from Cheryl and Linda Brown, daughters of one of the case's primary litigants. For more info contact **Prof. Bernice Barnett**.

On March 9, 2004, Columbia Law Looks at Equality, how *Brown v. Board of Education* empowers group struggles for equality today, with a focus on education and health.

### NEW YORK GROUP BRINGS TOGETHER STUDENTS OF DE FACTO SEGREGATION

Border Crossers brings together young students to explore issues of discrimination, inequality, and social justice, and to develop their commitment to effecting lasting social change in their classrooms and communities. Gary Orfield, of the Harvard Civil Rights Project, defines the current segregation of public education as the quiet reversal of *Brown v. Board of Education*. Border Crossers create a safe space in which students, who would not ordinarily meet, come together to embrace their diversity and learn how they can provide collective leadership towards a more just world. An eleven-year-old Border Crossers participant described it this way: "a lot of times when you live in a certain neighborhood, you stay there. So its like a little fence...you go to school there, you go to the supermarket there...." To learn more visit Border Crossers.

# REDDING SYMPOSIUM ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY of *BROWN v. BOARD of EDUCATION* SET for APRIL 2004

Two of the five consolidated cases that are remembered as *Brown*, *Bulah v. Gebhart* and *Belton v. Gebhart*, arose in Delaware. A distinguished Delaware civil rights lawyer, the late Louis L. Redding, represented the plaintiffs in these cases. Several Delaware organizations are joining forces to prepare a one-day symposium on April 23, 2004, to commemorate this historic event. "The Redding Symposium on the 50th Anniversary of *Brown v. Board of* 



Education: Celebrating the Past, Considering the Present and Contemplating the Future" will take place at the Clayton Hall Conference Center of the University of Delaware in Newark. Participants will include lawyers, academics, civil rights activists, community leaders and others, who will discuss the *Brown* decision and examine the present, past

and future of school desegregation in Delaware and throughout the United States. For more information on the symposium, please contact Professor Leland Ware, Louis L. Redding Chair for the Study of Law and Public Policy, by e-mail or at (302) 831-3930.

#### MIXED MEDIA MENTIONS OF BROWN....

"Panel urges focus on education" (The State Newspaper, South Carolina).

## **COMMISSIONER PROFILE**

Dr. John Jackson, National Director of Education, NAACP



"The <u>Brown</u> decision represents a moral collage of the promises which serve as the founding principles for our nation--the protection of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" announced in the Declaration of Independence, the affirmation of the freedom fought for and delivered in the Emancipation Proclamation, and the implementation of justice promised in the Constitution. For that, the <u>Brown</u> decision shall remain the most significant piece of the American jurisprudence of the 20th Century. However, as history is often written, only the work of the "social engineers" of the 21st Century will truly define whether <u>Brown's</u> historical legacy will be best framed by the hope that it inspired or the progress that it delivered."

## INTERESTING BROWN LINKS

- Montgomery County Public Schools (Md)
- The National Museum of American History

If you would like the newsletter to describe commemorative activities in your area or profile your website, please contact the Commission.

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